

JOURNAL

OF THE

First and Second

CONVENTIONS

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA :

Held in Newbern on the 24th of April, 1817, and in Fayetteville on
the 2d April, 1818.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONVENTION OF 1821.

FAYETTEVILLE :

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1821.



MINUTES, &c.

PRESENT—The Rev'd Bethel Judd, Rector of St. John's Church, Fayetteville ; The Rev. J. Curtis Clay, Rector of Christ's Church, Newbern ; the Rev. Adam Empie, Rector of St. James' Church, Wilmington ; John Stanley and John S. West, Esquires, Delegates from Christ's Church, Newbern ; Jno. Winslow, Esq. Delegate from St. John's Church, Fayetteville ; Josiah Collins, jun. Esq. Representative from St. Paul's Church, Edenton ; John R. London and Marsden Campbell, Esquires, Delegates from St. James' Church, Wilmington.

On motion, the Rev. Mr. Judd was appointed Chairman, and the Rev. Mr. Empie, Secretary.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Clay be requested to perform divine service, and the Rev. Mr. Judd to deliver a Sermon this forenoon.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Judd, the Rev'd Mr. Clay, and the Rev. Mr. Empie, together with Mr. Jno. Stanley and Mr. John R. London, be appointed a committee, to draw up and present to this meeting, a Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church of this State.

Adjourned until one o'clock.

Divine service having been performed, the Clergy and Lay Delegates convened according to adjournment, the committee presented the following

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1.—The Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, accedes to, recognizes and adopts the general Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the U. States, and acknowledges its authority accordingly.

2. There shall be an annual convention of this Church, on the second Thursday after Easter, at such place as shall be fixed by each preceding convention.

3. The convention shall be composed of such regularly ordained ministers as are settled in this state—such as are employed as professors or instructors of youth in incorporated seminaries—of such as are missionaries of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and of one or more Lay Delegates, for each Church, chosen by the Vestry or Congregation thereof.

4. Every convention shall be opened with prayer and a sermon ; and the preacher shall be nominated by the ecclesiastical authority of the church.

5. A president shall be annually appointed, who shall preside in all meetings of the convention, except when a Bishop shall be present, who shall, *ex officio*, be president of said convention.

6. A secretary shall be annually chosen, whose duty it shall be to keep a record of the proceedings, and to give due notice to each minister and vestry, of the time and place of the next meeting of the convention.

7. A standing committee shall be annually chosen, of not less than three or more than seven persons, who shall have power to admit candidates for the ministry ; and until a Bishop shall have been appointed, to examine the testimonials of foreign clergymen, to call special meetings of the convention, and to transact all such other business as they are empowered to do by the constitution and canons of the general convention.

8. In all matters which shall come before the convention, the clergy and laity shall deliberate in one body ; and in voting, the clergy shall vote by individuals, and the laity by congregations : but if in any case it be required by two votes, the two orders shall vote separately, and a concurrence shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

9. The election of a Bishop of this diocese shall be made in convention in the following manner: The order of the clergy shall nominate and appoint, by ballot, some fit and qualified clergyman for that office—and if this appointment be approved of by the lay order, he shall be declared duly elected. In the above mentioned nomination, and appointment, a majority of each order shall determine the choice ; provided that two thirds of all the clergy entitled to votes be present, and two thirds of all the congregations entitled to votes be represented, otherwise two thirds of the votes of each order shall be necessary to determine the choice.

10. This constitution may be altered or amended by a concurrent vote of two thirds of the attending members, at any annual meeting of the convention.

[Signed]

BETHEL JUDD,

Rector of St. John's Church, Fayetteville.

ADAM EMPIE,

Rector of St. James' Church, Wilmington.

J. CURTIS CLAY,

Rector of Christ's Church Newbern.

JOHN WINSLOW,

Lay Delegate from St. John's Church, Fayetteville.

MARSDEN CAMPBELL,

JOHN R. LONDON.

Lay Delegates from St. James' Church, Wilmington.

JOHN STANLY,

JOHN S. WEST,

Lay Delegates from Christ's Church, Newbern.

JOSIAH COLLINS, JUN.

Representative St. Paul's Church, Edenton.

The preceding constitution having been unanimously adopted and signed, the Rev. Mr. Judd was duly elected President, and the Rev. Mr. Empie, Secretary, for the ensuing year. The following gentlemen were chosen, also, to compose the standing committee—of the clergy, the Rev. Mr. Judd, Mr. Clay and Mr. Empie; and of the laity, Messrs. John S. West of Newbern, John Winslow of Fayetteville, John B. Blount of Edenton, and Marsden Campbell of Wilmington.

On motion, *Resolved*. That a copy of the Constitution now adopted, together with the proceedings of this Convention, be, by the Secretary, certified to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, with a request, that, agreeably to the fifth article of the Constitution, the Protestant Episcopal Church, in this State, may be recognized and admitted to representation.

Resolved, That the right Rev. R. C. Moore the Bishop of Virginia, be invited to visit and perform the Episcopal offices in this State, agreeably to the 20th canon of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States.

Resolved. That the President of the Convention present this invitation to the right Rev. Bishop Moore, together with a copy of the Constitution and proceedings of the Convention.

Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. Judd and Mr. Moses Jarvis of Newbern be appointed Delegates to the ensuing gen-

eral Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States.

Resolved, That the next annual Convention be holden at Fayetteville.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The preceding minutes were read and approved.

On motion, *Resolved*, that the Secretary cause 200 copies of the Constitution to be printed, and that he distribute the same, equally, among the congregations here represented.

Resolved, That it is expedient that the Rectors of the several Churches cause an annual collection, in their respective Churches, for the support of a Missionary in this State; and that the same be a fund subject to the order of the Convention.

Resolved. That the Rev. Mr. Clay be a committee to select or to draw up such canons as he may deem most expedient, and to report the same to the next convention.

(Signed)

BETHEL JUDD,

President of the Convention.

Attested.

ADAM EMPIE, *Secretary.*

FAYETTEVILLE, April 2, 1818.

This being the day appointed for the annual meeting of the convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of North Carolina; divine service was performed by the Rev. JOHN AVERY; and a discourse, suited to the occasion, delivered by the Rev. A. EMPIE,—after which the holy communion was also administered.

Public worship being ended, the Rev. Mr. Empie was re-elected Secretary, and the Rev. Mr. Judd President of the convention.—The minutes of the last meeting were read, and the following clerical members of the convention were found present:

Rev. Bethel Judd, rector of St. John's church, Fayetteville;

Rev. Adam Empie, rector of St. James' church, Wilmington;

Rev. John Avery, from St. Paul's church, Edenton.

Rev. Richard S. Mason, from Christ's church, Newbern.

The Rev. John Phillips, from Virginia, being present, was admitted to an honorary seat.

The following lay delegates likewise presented testimonials of their appointment, and were admitted accordingly, viz.

John Winslow and John A. Cameron, esquires, from St. John's church, Fayetteville; Dr. Armand J. De Rosset and Marsden Campbell, esq. from St. James' church, Wilmington; Josiah Collins junr. esq. from St. Paul's church, Edenton; and John W. Guion, esq. from Christ's church, Newbern.

A church having been organized in Orange county, by the name of St. Jude's church, (at the Union meeting-house, near Stony Creek) and application being made by the same to be received into union with our convention—*Resolved unanimously*, That the same be admitted. Whereupon, Robert Davis, presenting the certificate of his appointment as a lay delegate from said church, was admitted as such to a seat in the convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Messrs. Judd, Empie, Mason, and Every, be a committee to report, during this convention, upon the state of the church.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Thursday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The minutes of the forenoon were read and approved. In compliance with the 46th canon, the canons of the general convention were read.—The standing committee being called upon, laid before the house the report of their last year's transactions, which was read and accepted. It was then moved and carried, that the lay members of the standing committee be, for the present year, selected from Fayetteville; that the whole number of the committee be seven—and that the Rev. Messrs. Judd and Empie be the clerical, and Messrs. J. Winslow, J. A. Cameron, P. I. Tillinghast, senr. C. Mallet, and N. Kershaw, be the lay members of the same.

In conformity with his last year's appointment, the Rev. Mr. Judd informed the convention, that the Right Rev. R. C. Moore, of Virginia, had consented to perform episcopal offices in this state: that indisposition prevented him from attending this convention; and that he was ready to visit the congregations in this diocese, either in summer or in fall.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the treasurer of the Missionary Society be also the treasurer of the convention.

Resolved, also. That the committee on the state of the church, be requested to select, or compose, such canons as they may deem necessary for its government and welfare.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock, Friday morning.

Friday morning, 9 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The committee appointed to report upon the state of the church, then laid the following before the house ; which was approved and ordered to be printed with the journal.

The committee on the state of the church, regret that their limited means of information compel them to make a very imperfect report on the subject submitted to their consideration.

In November, 1816, the Rev. Bethel Judd, of the diocess of Connecticut, and the Rev. A. Empie, of the diocess of New-York, being deprived of health, and advised to change their climate, met at Wilmington; and during the subsequent winter, officiated in the church in that place. Previously to their arrival, there was no episcopal clergyman in this state, and but one congregation in which the worship of our church was performed. By their joint endeavors, however, together with the aid of the pious and zealous members of the congregation at Wilmington, under the blessing of God, piety and devout attention to religious ordinances rapidly increased. Since the first of the following May, the charge of the congregation has devolved entirely upon its present rector, the Rev. A. Empie, whose ministrations have been greatly blessed to his own comfort, to the satisfaction of his christian friends, and we trust to to the glory of God.

On the first of May, 1817, the Rev. B. Judd removed his station to the charge of a congregation, which, on the preceding Easter Monday, had by him been organized in Fayetteville. The zeal of that congregation, of which young men form a principal part, has been eminently evinced by their regular and devout attention to the worship of the church; by their liberal contributions for the support of their minister; and by their donations and exertions for the erection of a church, which will soon be completed; and which, when completed, be equal perhaps, in point of elegance, to any in the state.

About the first of January, 1817, the Rev. Mr. Clay took charge of the church at Newbern; and by his assiduity and talents gave great hopes of extensive usefulness—but circumstances inducing his removal to the diocese of Maryland, cast a gloom for a time over the prospects, and damped the zeal of the friends of Zion. A seasonable relief, however, is anticipated from the talents and zealous efforts of the Rev. Mr. Mason, who has recently commenced his labors in that congregation, with every prospect of success.

The Rev. Mr. Avery, having for some time taught an academy, and performed the duties of lay reader, at Edenton, was ordained in October last, and now officiates as the minister of that congregation, which, though not numerous, gives good evidence of its desire to promote religion, particularly by a very generous contribution for the support of missionaries in this state; an object in which all the friends of our church should feel a deep interest, and to which we cherish the hope that they will be liberal to the utmost extent of their means.

It is cause of gratitude, that so much has already been raised for missionary purposes; and that a clergyman, of whose piety and zeal we have the best evidence, is soon to be employed to visit vacant congregations, and to give every possible aid to revive the drooping spirits of the friends of our Zion, who are dispersed over the whole state, who retain strong predilections for the church of their fathers, and who hail with joy the present prospect of its revival.

But there is no circumstance more animating and cheering to the friends of religion, than to learn that five gentlemen, of whose qualifications we have no cause to doubt, have, on application, been admitted as candidates for holy orders.

It is now but little more than a year since there has been a hope of the revival of the church in this state. Never was there a more gloomy season to its friends, than that which preceded this period: But the prospect has greatly brightened; and, by the blessing of Heaven, perseverance will crown their efforts with abundant success. God hath been gracious to us in hearing the prayers of his church, and inspiring, with reanimated zeal and hope, those who love to tread her courts and worship at her sacred altars.

Much, however, remains still to be done. Prevailing lukewarmness is yet to be deplored—and while the harvest is very great, the laborers are very few. Every pious soul should, therefore, fervently pray that the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers into His harvest.

Let, then, our supplications be fervent and unceasing that our Heavenly Father would save us from all error, ignorance, pride, and prejudice ; that the comfortable gospel of Christ may be truly preached, truly received, and truly followed, in all places, to the breaking down of the kingdom of Sin, Satan, and Death, until at length the whole of His dispersed sheep are gathered together into one fold, and become partakers of everlasting life, through the merits and death of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

The committee having presented the above report, in compliance with their appointment, laid also before the convention the following Canons, which were likewise adopted and ordered to be printed with the journals :

CANON I.

Of Presentments.

Every trial of a Clergyman in this church, for misbehaviour, shall be on presentment, made to the Bishop by the Convention, by the Vestry of the parish to which the Clergyman belongs, or by three or more Presbyters of the church. In every presentment, the charge or charges shall be distinctly specified.

CANON II.

Of the Trial of a Clergyman.

For the trial of a Clergyman, the Bishop shall appoint three Presbyters, who shall be constituted a board for trying the accused person. The Bishop shall fix the time and place of trial ; of both which at least a month's notice shall be given to the party accused ; and should he neglect or refuse to attend, the trial shall proceed. The board, thus constituted, shall examine fully the charges alleged, and keep a minute and accurate record of the testimony of witnesses, and of every question and proceeding that comes before them. No charge shall be substantiated on a testimony of less than two witnesses.—On the examination of any witness, should the accused party require it, an oath or affirmation shall be administered by a magistrate. In all questions, a unanimous vote shall be necessary to a decision. Having come to a decision on the charge or charges respectively, the board shall communicate this decision to the Bishop—and, also, in case they have found the

accused guilty, the sentence which, in their opinion, should be pronounced. A certified copy of the record of their proceedings shall be laid before the Bishop, and his judgment in the case shall be final.

CANON III.

Of the sentence to be pronounced on a Clergyman found guilty of misbehaviour.

This sentence may be admonition, suspension, degradation from the ministry, or excommunication; and shall be pronounced by the Bishop, and communicated to every parish in the state.

A letter was then read from the Secretaries of the House of Bishops, and the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, proposing to alter the time of the meeting of the General Convention, from the third Tuesday in May, to the first Tuesday in October, 1823—Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the proposed alteration be, and is hereby approved.

The Clergy were called upon to report their missionary collections and the state of their churches, which were as follows :

MISSIONARY FUND.

Collected at Edenton, by the Reverend

Mr. Avery, - - - - - § 194

Collected at Wilmington, by the Reverend

A. Empie, - - - - - 122 30

From the peculiar circumstances of the churches, and from other causes acknowledged to be sufficient, no collections have been made at Fayetteville or Newbern; and from Newbern, and Edenton also, there were no parochial reports, as those churches have but very recently been supplied with pastors. The reports received from the two remaining churches, are as follows :

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, FAYETTEVILLE,

Reverend BETHEL JUDD, Rector.

Baptisms, - - - - - 10

Communicants,	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Marriages,	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Burials,	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

ST. JAMES' CHURCH, WILMINGTON,

Reverend A. EMPIE, Rector.

Number of communicants at present,	-	-	140
Of which number 8 are Africans.			
Increase of communicants since May last,	-	-	43
Baptisms in the same period,	-	-	51
Of these 4 were adults			
Funerals in the same period,	-	-	36
Of which 8 were strangers.			
Marriages,	-	-	12

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Clergy be requested to visit, as often as convenient, the vacant parishes in their respective neighborhoods.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Reverend Messrs. Judd, Mason, Avery and Empie, be appointed as clerical, and Messrs. John Winslow, of Fayetteville, Josiah Collins, junr. of Edenton, John Stanley, of Newbern, and Marsden Campbell, of Wilmington, as lay delegates to the next general convention.

Resolved. That the thanks of this convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Empie, for the discourse delivered by him at the opening of the convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That three hundred copies of the journal of this convention be printed.

The hour appointed for divine service having arrived. the convention adjourned to meet again at 4 o'clock, P. M.

Friday, 4 o'clock P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The preceding minutes were read and approved.

Resolved, That the next annual convention be held at Wilmington:

Adjourned:

BETHEL JUDD,
President of the Convention.

ATTESTED,

A. EMPIE, *Secretary.*

CONSTITUTION

*Of the Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church
in North-Carolina.*

Article 1. This Society shall be known by the name or title of the Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church of North-Carolina.

2. There shall be an annual meeting of this Society, at the same time and place at which the convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of North-Carolina for that year, may be held.

3. The Officers of this Society shall be, a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of Managers, consisting of four.

4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside in the meetings of the society, and to call special meetings of the same.

5. The Vice-Presidents, by seniority, shall in the absence, or at the request of the President perform the duties of President.

6. The Secretary shall keep a record of the transactions of this society, and conduct the necessary correspondence.

7. The Treasurer shall receive all monies, keep an account of the same, and pay them by order of the board of managers.

8. The board of managers, consisting of clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, shall appoint missionaries, to superintend their missionary labors, and authorize them to receive such compensation for their services as the board shall deem expedient. When the funds will permit it, they may aid young men, who are studying for the ministry, and who shall, in such case after they take orders, be bound to act as missionaries as long as the board think proper, provided, that it exceed not one year.

9. Persons shall be appointed, in various parts of the state, to solicit such aid for the support of Missionaries as the pious and well disposed may be inclined to contribute, and to transmit the same to the treasurer, together with the names of subscribers.

10. Each person whose subscription may amount to Two Dollars annually, shall be considered a member of said society. Twenty dollars shall entitle a subscriber to membership for life.

11. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote

of two-thirds of the attending members at any annual meeting of the society.

12. The members attending, shall always constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1821.

DUNCAN CAMERON, Esq. of Orange county, *President*.

Josiah Collins, Junr Esq. of Edenton, }
A. J. De Rosset, M. D. of Wilmington, } *Vice-Presidents.*
Paris J. Tillinghast, of Fayetteville, }

Rev. John Avery, }
R. S. Mason, and } *Managers.*
G. T. Bedell, }

JOHN HUSKE, of Fayetteville, *Treasurer*,
Rev. G. T. BEDELL, *Secretary*.



